

**BOROUGH OF**



**WATFORD**

# **Annual Report**

ON

## **Health, Sanitary Conditions**

ETC.

FOR THE YEAR, 1933, BY

**William J. Cox, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer Maternity  
and Child Welfare Scheme. Medical Superintendent of  
Watford Joint Isolation Hospital. Assistant School  
Medical Officer Herts County Council

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**INCLUDING REPORTS ON**  
**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS. WATFORD DENTAL**  
**CLINIC AND WATFORD JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**



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1934





PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,  
1 ST. ALBANS ROAD,  
WATFORD.

*April, 1934.*

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF  
THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Twelfth Annual Report, which is also the Twelfth Health Report of the Borough of Watford.

It is actually the Sixty-first Annual Report for this district, as it was preceded by forty-nine Health Reports of the former Urban District.

This year's report is an ordinary report and is, therefore, a little briefer than the full Survey Report which is published every fifth year. The problem of insanitary areas in Watford has been settled satisfactorily, by their almost total abolition, with re-housing of tenants, following the Ministry of Health enquiry.


I have much pleasure in acknowledging the valuable assistance I have received from various other officials of the Borough in carrying out my duties, and particularly from Mr. S. Jump, Senior Sanitary Inspector, whose help has been invaluable, particularly in connection with housing matters. I am also indebted to him for some of the statistical figures in this Report dealing with sanitary inspection, etc.

With regard to new enterprises, the Pre-school Clinic is already proving itself useful and there is the possibility that a clinic may be started for immunisation against diphtheria in the near future.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

WILLIAM J. COX.



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## ARRANGEMENT OF ANNUAL REPORT.

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Table of Incubation and Exclusion Periods.

## I. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area—3,247 acres.

Population to Mid-year 1933—57,370 (Registrar General's Estimate).

Number of inhabited houses—13,453 (Census, 1931).

Number of families or separate occupiers—14,799 (Census 1931)

Rateable value—£489,008 (April 1st, 1934).

Sum represented by a penny rate—£1,890.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1933.

			M.	F.	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	775	385	390	} Birth rate 14·01
(Total 809)	{ Illegitimate	34	15	19	
		<hr/> 809	<hr/> 400	<hr/> 409	

Still Births—24

Deaths—629

Death Rate—10·7

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth :

From Sepsis ... .. 0

Other Puerperal causes 1

Death-rate of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 live births :

Legitimate ... 40·6

Illegitimate ... 58·8

Total ... .. 44·4

Deaths from measles (all ages) ... .. 0

Deaths from whooping cough (all ages) ... 6

Deaths from diarrhoea (under two years of age) 2



VITAL STATISTICS.

The following Table gives the chief vital statistics of the Borough of Watford and also of London, the groups of 118 County Boroughs and Great Towns and 132 Smaller Towns, and also of the country as a whole. The rates have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1932 for the towns, but those for England and Wales and London on population estimated to middle of 1933. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of Towns.

TABLE A.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY—1932.

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		
	Live- births	Still- births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small- pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Diph- theria	In- fluenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under one year
England and Wales	14.4	0.62	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.57	0.54	7.1	64
118 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	14.4	0.67	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.02	0.06	0.08	0.55	0.49	9.4	67
132 Smaller Towns (1931 Adjusted Populations 25,000-50,000)	14.5	0.63	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.53	0.44	4.9	56
London	13.2	0.45	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.08	0.51	0.58	11.6	59
WATFORD	14.2	0.42	10.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.09	0.00	0.55	0.6	2.4	44.4

The Maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows :

The Maternal mortality rates for BOROUGH OF WATFORD are as follows :

		Puerperal Sepsis	Others	Total
per 1,000 live births		1.79	2.63	4.42
per 1,000 live births		Nil	1.22	1.22

**BIRTH RATE.**—The number of births in the Borough of Watford during the last year after correction for inward and outward transfers was 809, compared with 819 in 1932, 829 in 1931 and 864 in 1930. This gives a Birth Rate of 14·01.

**ESTIMATED POPULATION OF THE BOROUGH.**—It will come as a surprise to most people to find that the estimated population figure for the Borough of Watford supplied by the Registrar General for 1933 is less than the figure supplied for 1932. On receiving the figure of 57,370 for 1933, I wrote to the Registrar General pointing out that 207 houses had been built during the year 1933 in the borough and that there was no reason to suppose that the population had diminished in number during the last year (the Registrar General's Estimate for the year 1932 was 57,400 or 30 more than in 1933 !). An official Memorandum on the subject was received from which are published a few extracts. The hope is expressed that the Memorandum may be of service in explaining some of the post censal changes which appear to be disclosed by the estimates and in allaying disappointment which might otherwise be aroused by an insufficient appreciation of the tendencies which current records indicate.

The Memorandum reads as follows:—

“ It will be appreciated that an adequate discussion of the interplay of all the factors contributing to the estimate of each of the 1800 odd Boroughs and Districts into which the country is divided would present an altogether impossible task and in these circumstances, the Registrar General, while regretting that it does not seem possible to him to engage in discussion of individual estimates, desires to call attention to certain general misconceptions or sources of error into which, from the experience of recent years, critics of the estimates may be liable to fall:—

- (a) The estimates refer to the position as at the 30th June, 1932, and not as at the 31st December, 1932.
- (b) The estimates purport to represent resident populations which are different in principle from Census populations as indicated earlier in this Memorandum.

In this connection, it may be stated that the estimates of resident populations for the year 1931 were prepared before the Census returns had been examined and have accordingly been entirely disregarded in the construction of the 1932 estimates.

- (c) In comparing population changes with changes in the numbers of electors, it must be borne in mind that the latter consist of adults only and that, in the general population at the present time, while the number of adults is increasing, the numbers below age 21 are declining.



Speaking generally, a high rate of electoral increase in a given area usually denotes a much lower rate of population increase; a slowly increasing electorate may indicate a stationary or declining population, while a stationary or declining electorate almost certainly indicates a fall or much larger fall in total population.

- (d) Similarly in connection with housing comparisons, populations cannot be regarded as changing in simple relationship with the changes in the numbers of dwellings available. This may be illustrated by reference to conditions in the country as a whole. Between the date of the Census and the 30th June, 1932, some 250,000 new dwelling houses have been completed. These, on a conventional rate of occupation of, say, four persons per dwelling, may be regarded as housing about one million people; but the total increase in the national population during this period can be shewn to be little different from 250,000 persons. It would follow that the occupants of the houses existing at the date of the Census must have been diminished by a substantial amount of the order of 750,000 persons, or about two per cent. of the total population. The remarkable decline in the size of families is a feature which has been noted in the Census records of almost every area in the country; and no estimate of population movement could be regarded as valid, which while taking account of the occupants of new dwellings, ignored the equally important, if less tangible, decline that is taking place in the population of the older houses."

The Registrar General's Estimate of the population of Watford for 1933 (i.e., 57,370) has been used for the compilation of statistics in this Report.

The table on the next page is of some interest for comparative purposes:—

## POPULATION, BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN WATFORD SINCE 1890

YEAR	POPULATION estimated to middle of year	BIRTHS		DEATHS		
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate.	
1890	16,000	328	20·50	225	14·0	{ Census 1891 gave popula- tion as 16,819
1891	16,519	396	23·54	220	13·0	
1892	19,400	547	28·19	276	14·22	
1893	20,500	580	28·78	265	12·92	
1894	21,500	610	28·37	225	10·46	
1895	23,200	724	31·20	367	15·8	
1896	24,000	691	28·58	285	11·9	
1897	25,300	679	26·83	258	10·2	
1898	26,500	754	28·45	311	11·7	
1899	27,500	760	27·63	355	12·9	
1900	28,500	830	29·12	408	14·3	
1901	29,527	944	31·90	363	12·2	{ Census 1901 gave popula- tion as 29,327
1902	31,000	823	26·50	348	11·2	
1903	31,600	909	28·70	375	11·8	
1904	33,048	928	28·00	380	11·4	
1905	34,633	946	27·3	373	10·7	
1906	35,237	954	27·0	377	10·6	
1907	36,379	914	25·1	428	11·7	
1908	37,521	896	23·8	350	9·3	
1909	38,663	935	24·1	400	10·3	
1910	39,805	887	22·3	375	9·4	
1911	41,200	907	22·0	418	10·1	{ Census 1911 gave popula- tion as 40,939
1912	42,570	897	21·0	389	9·1	
1913	43,670	885	20·2	434	9·9	
1914	45,000	969	19·0	450	10·0	
1915	41,640	872	20·9	510	12·2	{ Figure shown for popula- tion repre- sents popula- tion after de- duction of drafts to Army
1916	41,436	783	17·3	491	11·7	
1917	40,650	625	13·7	475	11·3	
1918	50,502	596	11·8	577	12·8	{ Figure shown for popula- tion includes men demo- bilised
1919	48,113	624	12·9	509	11·0	
1920	48,027	1,077	22·4	407	8·4	{ Census 1921 gave popula- tion as 45,910
1921	45,910	890	19·3	426	9·2	
1922	46,610	915	18·9	448	9·6	
1923	47,100	866	18·3	405	8·5	
1924	48,628	847	17·7	481	9·8	
1925	48,990	847	17·2	484	9·8	
1926	50,033	775	15·4	477	9·5	
1927	52,580	825	15·4	543	10·03	
1928	54,460	842	15·4	511	9·38	
1929	54,670	834	15·2	644	11·7	
1930	55,870	864	15·4	535	9·5	
1931	56,500	829	14·6	525	9·2	{ Census 1931 gave popula- tion as 56,799
1932	57,400	819	14·2	602	10·4	
1933	57,370	809	14·01	629	10·7	

Birth and Death rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.



DEATHS.—The number of deaths for the Borough after allowing for outward and inward transfers is, according to the Registrar-General's return, 629, as compared with 602 in the previous year.

This gives a *Death Rate* of 10·7 per 1,000 from all causes which compares favourably with London's Death Rate of 12·2 and with the Death Rate of the whole country, which was 12·3 per 1,000.

The following table gives a complete list of deaths from all causes.

TABLE B.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Male.	Female.
<b>All Causes...</b> ... ..					340	289
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...			—	—
2.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1	1
4.	Whooping Cough...	...	...	...	1	5
5.	Diphtheria...	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Influenza	...	...	...	16	16
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	—	1
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	—	2
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...			25	19
10.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...		2	3
11.	Syphilis	...	...	...	1	—
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	...	...	...	2	—
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...		47	35
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	3	2
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...		8	12
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	80	60
17.	Aneurysm	...	...	...	1	—
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...		11	21
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	9	11
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	20	17
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...		1	2
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	9	3
23.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...		1	1
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	2
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	1	2
26.	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	...	...		—	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...		7	7
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...		9	6
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—	—
30.	Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	—	1
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	14	9
32.	Senility	...	...	...	12	15
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	4	4
34.	Other Violence	...	...	...	21	6
35.	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	33	25
36.	Causes-Ill-defined or Unknown	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):—						
	Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—

INFANT DEATHS.—Under the age of 12 months. These number 36, giving an *Infant Death Rate* of 44·4 per 1,000 births. It will be seen from the comparative table of Birth and Death Rates given on

page 7, that the Infant Death Rate of Watford is lower than that of London which is 59 and the whole country which is 64.

Particulars of the various causes of death under the age of 12 months are given in the following Table.

TABLE C.—DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR.

CAUSE.	Under 1 Month	1 to 3 Months	3 to 6 Months	6 to 9 Months	9 to 12 Months	TOTAL
Suffocation ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Syphilis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Cardiac Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	—	1	1	1	1	4
Nephritis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Malforma- tion and Prematurity ...	23	—	—	—	—	23
Gastritis and Gastro-Enteritis	2	—	1	—	—	3
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	2
Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Influenza ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intestinal Hæmorrhage and obstruction	1	—	1	1	—	3
Laryngeal Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	26	3	3	3	1	36

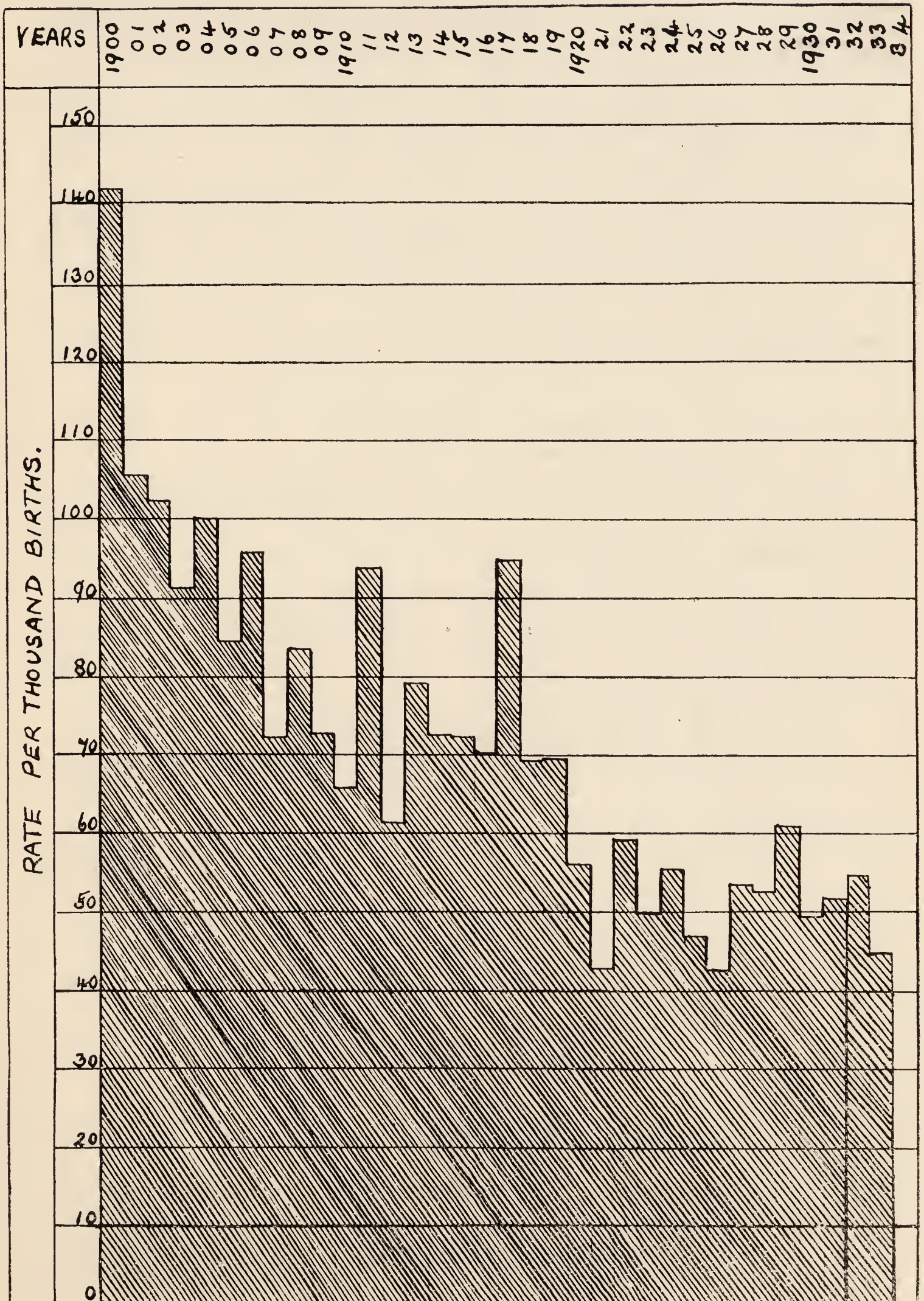
FALL IN INFANT MORTALITY.

Throughout the whole country there has been during the last thirty years a phenomenal fall in infant mortality. A diagram is included for the first time in this Annual Report to show in a graphic way the progress of this fall of Infant Mortality in the Borough of Watford. Whereas in 1900 this mortality figure was over 140 it now hovers each year between ~~50~~<sup>55</sup> and 60. The reasons for this change are various. There is no doubt that better education in general is largely responsible, and in particular, education in methods of child nurture and especially in infant feeding. A certain amount of credit may be claimed by health departments on account of the work of their Health Visitors and Infant Welfare Centres. Here the importance of breast feeding is emphasised, and when this cannot be carried out the use of dried milk is commonly advised. It is interesting to note that since the introduction of dried milk as an infant food, bad cases of infant diarrhoea have become comparatively rare. This fact alone has been a potent factor in the reduction of infant mortality.



# INFANT MORTALITY.

This Diagram shows fall since the year 1900. This year's mortality is one of the three lowest on record.



## II. PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### (a) PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

\*Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital,

\*Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme :—

WILLIAM J. COX, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

\*Assistant Medical Officer (for Ante-natal Clinic) :—

WINIFRED PIGGOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

\*Assistant Medical Officer (for Elfrida Road and North Watford Centres and also for Pre-School Clinic):—

MARGARET WARD, M.D., D.P.H.

\*Dental Officer, Maternity <sup>AND</sup> Child Welfare Centre :—

SIDNEY W. FISK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.

\*Senior Sanitary Inspector :—

S. JUMP, M.S.I.A., CERT. R. SAN. INST.

„ „ „ (Meat and Foods).

\*Meat and Food Inspector :—

R. V. JACOB, CERT. R. SAN. INST.

„ „ „ (Meat and Foods).

\*Assistant Sanitary Inspectors :—

A. W. NICOL, CERT. R. SAN. INST.

L. D. SATURLEY, CERT. R. SAN. INST.

„ „ „ (Meat and Foods).

\*Health Visitors :—

MISS G. M. HAMMOND, General Training, and C.M.B.  
CERT. HEALTH VISITOR, R. SAN. INST.

MISS ELSIE F. POTTER, General Training and C.M.B.  
CERT. HEALTH VISITOR, R. SAN. INST.

MISS M. ROBERTSON, General Training and C.M.B.  
CERT. HEALTH VISITOR, R. SAN. INST.

Clerks :—

(Public Health) R. A. SMITH.

(Maternity and Child Welfare) Miss D. V. JENNINGS.

\* Denotes salary contribution made by Exchequer grants.



**(b) HOME NURSING AND MIDWIVES.**

Both these matters are administered by Herts County Council. In the Borough of Watford, unlike most towns, there are no voluntary nursing associations, owing to the existence of the training centre for district nurses belonging to the County Council. The nurses who are in training in this institution act in the capacity of district nurses for the whole Borough. For the same reason there are very few midwives in private practice here—three as a matter of fact, as the midwifery cases are to a large extent attended from the Herts training centre. No doubt a certain number of maternity cases in the town are attended by midwives from outside the district, and in addition there is the new Maternity Home of the Hertfordshire County Council, and various other cases entered nursing homes in the town for the same purpose. The provision of District Nurses for the Borough of Watford is at the present time being considered. It is intended to form a District Nursing Association, affiliated with the Herts. County Nursing Association.

**(c) LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

For general pathological and other forms of laboratory investigation the medical practitioners of Watford usually rely upon the Peace Memorial Hospital. Certain members of the honorary staff act as pathologists and in addition there is a whole time laboratory assistant.

The work of the Council's laboratory was formerly confined to the examination of swabs for the presence of Klebs Loeffler bacillus, but this work has now been transferred to the Peace Memorial Hospital.

**(d) LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT WITH DATE OF ADOPTION.**

The undermentioned Acts have been adopted in the Borough of Watford :—

- The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889
- The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
- The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
- The Baths and Wash-houses Acts.
- The Private Street Works Act, 1892.
- The Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907 (part).
- The Notification of Births Act, 1907.

The following Local Act and Orders are in force in the Borough of Watford :—

- The Watford Urban District Council Act, 1909.

The Borough Council has made bye-laws or regulations for the following matters :—

New Streets and Buildings.

The Cleansing of Footways and Pavements.

Nuisances.

Common Lodging Houses.

Slaughter Houses.

Pleasure Grounds.

Bathing Place.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

Offensive Trades.

Water Supply.

Commons.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Keeping of Poultry.

Dogs (fouling of public footways).

Smoke Abatement.

#### **(e) MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.**

The Herts County Council is the supervising authority for the inspection of maternity and nursing homes. Watford is fairly well supplied with such institutions. The new Maternity Home of the Herts C.C. situated in King Street and for the use of cases in Watford and District was opened in 1931. It has 22 beds and is well equipped in every way. There is no doubt that this institution is greatly appreciated by the mothers of the borough. The Home contains two wards of eight beds each, five single beds, and one ward for isolation purposes. During the last year 348 cases were admitted.

#### **(f) MATERNAL MORTALITY.**

Following the report on Maternal Mortality by Dr. Janet Campbell in 1924, increased interest has been taken in this matter. In 1928 in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health, the Committee on Maternal Mortality drew up an Inquiry Form for the investigation of maternal deaths which was circulated to Local Authorities to be used in inquiries by the Medical Officer of Health.

Since it was issued this Inquiry Form has been in use in connection with all maternal deaths occurring in this Borough, reports on each case having been sent up to the Ministry. During the last year there was no death from puerperal sepsis and only one from other puerperal causes in Watford.

This gives a MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE of 1·22 per 1,000 births, which compares favourably with the rate of 4·42 for the whole country.

It should be stated that for cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia in the Borough of Watford, Mr. John Ellison, F.R.C.S.E. acts as specialist when required, and that his services are available to assist practitioners when necessary. The Hertfordshire County Council is responsible for this specialist service.

#### **(g) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

These are the same as in the previous year. In addition to Motor Ambulances in use at the Isolation Hospital for removal of infectious cases, there are also the Corporation Ambulances provided in co-operation with the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

#### **(h) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

These are the same as in previous years, with the addition of the "Toddlers' Clinic," which is referred to under the section dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare. A full list of these was given in the Annual Report of 1931.

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### III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

#### Water Supply.

The Water Supply of the Borough is obtained from deep wells and is moderately hard.

Samples are analysed by Messrs. Beale and Suckling of the Counties Public Health Laboratories at regular intervals.

The following very satisfactory report is that of a sample of water received by the analysts on January 23rd, 1934.

Appearance	...	...	...	Clear and bright.
Colour	...	...	...	Normal.
Odour	...	...	...	Nil.
Reaction pH	...	...	...	Neutral 7·6
Free Carbonic Acid	...	...	...	—
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	...	...	...	490.
Total Solids, 180° C.	...	...	...	32·5.
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	2·7.
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	1·00.
Nitrites	...	...	...	Absent.
Hardness :—				
Permanent...	...	...	...	9·0.
Temporary	...	...	...	13·0.
Total	...	...	...	22·0.
Metals	...	...	...	Minute trace of iron 0·005.
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0·0008.
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0·0020.
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37°				
C.	...	...	...	0·0330.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

No. of bacteria per c.c. :—

On Gelatine in 3 days at 20° C.	14
On Agar in 24 hrs. at 37° C.	0
The Bacillus Coli ... ..	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii (B. Enteritidis Sporogenes) ... ..	Absent in 100 c.c.

**Report.**—This is a clear and bright colourless water of neutral reaction. It is hard in character, free from excess of saline matter and contains no metals, apart from a minute and negligible trace of Iron. The water is of good organic quality and a very high degree of bacterial purity, and is pure and wholesome, therefore, for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) E. V. SUCKLING.

For Drs. BEALE and SUCKLING.



## HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION.

I am indebted to Mr. S. Jump, Senior Sanitary Inspector, for the following table which is a copy of particulars which have to be supplied to the Ministry of Health each year, showing full details of cost, etc., of this service. The particulars, however, relate to the twelve months ending 31st March, 1933.

Item. (1)	Particulars. (2)	I.—Collection, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		II.—Disposal, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		TOTAL, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded	
		Included (3)	Excluded (4)	Included (5)	Excluded (6)	Included (7)	Excluded (8)
A	REVENUE A/c Gross Expenditure	£ 5,618	£ 5,100	£ 4,104	£ 4,104	£ 9,722	£ 9,204
B	Gross Income ...	220	220	1,559	1,559	1,779	1,779
C	Net Cost ...	5,398	4,880	2,545	2,545	7,943	7,425
D	UNIT COSTS Gross expenditure, per ton ...	s. d. 8 7·6	s. d. 7 10·0	s. d. 6 3·7	s. d. 6 3·7	s. d. 14 11·3	s. d. 14 1·7
E	Gross income, per ton ...	0 4·0	0 4·0	2 4·8	2 4·8	2 8·8	2 8·8
F	Net cost, per ton	8 3·6	7 6·0	3 10·9	3 10·9	12 2·5	11 4·9
G	Net cost, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	£ s. d. 352 16 2	£ s. d. 318 19 1	£ s. d. 166 6 10	£ s. d. 166 6 10	£ s. d. 519 3 0	£ s. d. 485 5 11
H	Net cost, per 1,000 population ...	£ s. d. 94 0 10	£ s. d. 85 0 4	£ s. d. 44 6 9	£ s. d. 44 6 9	£ s. d. 138 7 7	£ s. d. 129 7 1
J	RATE POUNDAGE Net cost; equivalent rate in the £	2·916	2·636	1·375	1·375	4·291	4·011
K	Percentage of J to total rates in the £ ...	2·314%	2·092%	1·091%	1·091%	3·405%	3·183%

1.	Total refuse collected (in tons) ...	13,010	5.	Number of Houses and premises	15,300
2.	Population, Midsummer, 1933 ...	57,370	6.	Rateable Value ...	£459,608
3.	Area (Statute acres) ...	3,247	7.	Product of a penny rate ...	£1850·7634
4.	Weight (in cwt.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)	12·42	8.	Total rates in the £ ...	10s. 6d.

9.	Method of collection :—	Number of vehicles	Percentage of refuse collected
	Horse Vehicles ...	1 ...	10·%
	Mechanical vehicles ...	7 ...	90·%
	Container system (combination of mechanical and horse vehicles)	— ...	—

## METHOD OF DISPOSAL :—

Burnt in Meldrum's Destructor.

Average length of haul to disposal ... 1·5 miles.

During the past year the work of refuse collection has been increased on account of an additional 400 houses on the Bradshaw Estate, which are being collected from, by arrangement with the Watford Rural District Council.

There is only one horse and cart in use for the collection of house refuse, in addition to seven S. & D. freighters.

One of the freighters, which is mounted on pneumatic tyres, is used for the collection of fish offal and slaughterhouse offal, and on this work is employed approximately half a day, the rest of the time on house refuse collection. Fish and slaughterhouse offal is collected in a very satisfactory and much more economical manner than was previously the case with horse-drawn vehicles.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

A Water Carriage System for sewage is in general use in Watford with the exception of certain areas which are still not connected up with the sewer. The following private streets in Garston come in this category:—First Avenue, Second Avenue, Garston Drive, Sheepcot Drive, and Garston Crescent. In the following districts connections with the sewer are now available:—Garston Lane, St. Albans Road, Horseshoe Lane, and Sheepcot Lane.

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### REPORT OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR 1933.

Visits to Courts and Alleys...	...	...	...	...	...	144
„ Infected Houses	...	...	...	...	...	153
„ Work in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	1,304
Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	362
„ re-Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	326
„ Inspected (Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	281
„ re-Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	411
„ Inspected Rents Act	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ re-Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	—
Special visits to Houses, Insanitary Areas	...	...	...	...	...	789
„ Enquiries <i>re</i> Housing	...	...	...	...	...	13
Workshops Inspected	}	...	...	...	...	268
Bakehouses „						
Factories „						
Inhabited Vans Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	20
Urinals Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	24

Manure Pits Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	629
Visits to Schools <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Nuisances Investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	472
Interviews with Owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	474
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,600
House Drains Smoke Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
„ Water Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
„ Chemically Tested and Examined	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Scavenging Superintended	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Inspections <i>re</i> Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
„ <i>re</i> Sanitary Condition of Theatres, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Preliminary Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	...	473
Legal Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
School Notices Served after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
Number of Letters Sent	...	...	...	...	...	...	649
Number of Complaints Received	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Number of Licences granted under Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
„ „ „ „ Carbide Order	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Cowsheds Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	180
Milkshops and Dairies Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	936
Slaughter House Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,609
Visits to Market	...	...	...	...	...	...	411
„ <i>re</i> Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
„ to Food Preparing Places	...	...	...	...	...	...	183
„ to Fish Shops...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,243
„ to Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	912
„ <i>re</i> Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	415
„ <i>re</i> Rats and Mice Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	472
„ <i>re</i> Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
„ <i>re</i> Smoke Nuisances (observations, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
„ <i>re</i> Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
„ to Watercress Beds	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ <i>re</i> Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
„ <i>re</i> Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
„ <i>re</i> Defective Fresh Air Inlets	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ <i>re</i> Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
„ <i>re</i> Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Samples of Milk Taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
„ „ Water Taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	6



# NUISANCES ABATED.

Choked Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
„ W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Gullies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
„ Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
„ Inspection Chambers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ „ „ Covers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ Interceptors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ Fences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
„ W.C. Flushing Fittings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
„ Soil Pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Vent Pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Gullies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
„ Sinks and Sink Waste Pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
„ Eaves, Guttering and Rain Water Pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
„ Fresh Air Inlets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
„ Doors and Door Frames	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
„ Floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Cellar Flaps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ Staircases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
„ Ceilings, Plastering, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
„ Coppers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
„ Chimneys and Flues	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ Window Frames and Sash Cords	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	101
„ Fireplaces and Cooking Ranges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Brickwork	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
„ Walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rooms Renovated, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	229
Yard Paving Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Filthy Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Dampness Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Dirty Closets and Yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
General Repairs, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
Poultry and Animals Improperly Kept	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dustbins Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
Smoke Nuisances Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2



## DISINFECTION, ETC.

Rooms after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	151
„ „ Consumption	...	...	...	...	...	75
„ „ Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ for Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	9
School Rooms after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	60
Hospital Wards, etc., Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	3

## BEDDING, ETC., DISINFECTED.

Palliasses	...	...	3	Bolsters	...	...	69
Mattresses	...	...	15	Blankets	...	...	183
Beds	...	...	87	Sheets	...	...	140
Pillows	...	...	143	Sundries	...	...	567

## BEDDING, ETC., DESTROYED.

By request of owners.

Beds	...	...	3	Counterpanes	...	...	—
Sundries	...	...	50	Mattresses	...	...	10
Sheets	...	...	—	Pillows	...	...	6
Blankets	...	...	—	Bolsters	...	...	7

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**SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

A bye-law has been adopted in Watford but it has not been necessary to take legal proceedings in any case during the past year.

The bye-law prescribes that the emission of black smoke for a period of two minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes, from any building other than a private dwelling house, shall until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be a nuisance.

**Health Education.**

Under Section 67 of the Public Health Act, 1925, Local Authorities are permitted to engage in and to incur expenditure on health propaganda. There are various voluntary associations willing to assist in this matter as, e.g., the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, The Health and Cleanliness Council, and the Central Council for Health Education. With regard to the publication of a local issue of the journal "Better Health," this has unfortunately now ceased owing to the difficulty in obtaining local advertisements.

## IV.—HOUSING.

### (a) UNHEALTHY AREAS.

In last year's Report the comment was made that very little progress had been made during 1932 in the matter of demolition of insanitary areas. During the year 1933, however, much more has been achieved. It must not be considered that the events of 1933 in the matter of slum clearance and re-housing are the result of a sudden spurt in the housing campaign resulting in an immediate clearance of all the slums in the year 1933. Although most of the houses which may be described as "slum" property in the town of Watford have now been dealt with by clearance, there will still remain other areas where sanitary improvements are still necessary.

Further, the developments which have recently taken place are the culminating point of a housing campaign which has lasted many years and are the result of a carefully considered policy. Some of the areas recently demolished were first scheduled by the late Dr. King in 1919. The first move in demolition and re-housing was made in 1924 when the Ballard's buildings and New Street area was dealt with. Between 1924 and 1928 there was considerable activity in dealing with insanitary house property as the following table shows:—

#### LIST OF HOUSES DEMOLISHED 1924-1928.

	Houses.
Ballard's Buildings and New Street ... ..	48
Butcher's Yard and Meeting Alley ... ..	41
Beechen Grove, Nos 19 and 21 ... ..	2
Loates Lane ... ..	3
Lamb Yard ... ..	6
Red Lion Yard... ..	10
Watford Heath... ..	3
Lower High Street ... ..	6
Tipple's Yard ... ..	2
Cassio Hamlet ... ..	7
Woodman's Yard ... ..	4
Watford Fields... ..	8
Wheatsheaf Cottages ... ..	2
Chalk Hill ... ..	1
Three Crowns' Passage ... ..	3
Prospect Place ... ..	2
Rickmansworth Road ... ..	2
Hempstead Road ... ..	2

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In addition to the above list of houses which were condemned and afterwards demolished there were six other houses closed as unfit, but allowed to be converted for other purposes.



This period of activity was followed by a comparatively quiescent period as no further demolition of areas took place until the year 1933, although preparations were being made for the next step.

In 1930, following the issue of Circular 1153, two hundred houses were declared to be unfit and were scheduled for demolition during the next five years, a "Quinquennial Statement" having been made on the matter of housing intentions by the Watford Corporation.

The 200 houses specified were situated in the following localities:— Wells' Yard (24), New Road and Chapman's Yard (36), Chater's Yard and Albert Street (15), Meeting Alley (10), Carey Place (11), Red Lion Yard (4), Beechen Grove and Grove Circus (18), Crown Terrace (5), Water Lane (5), High Street and neighbourhood (11), Fox Alley and Watford Fields (6), Aldenham Road (4), Upper Paddock Road (8), Watford Heath (3), Rookery Road area (22), Wright's Buildings (6).

In September, 1932 the Borough Council declared certain of the above areas to be clearance areas and others for compulsory purchase, and a Ministry of Health Enquiry was held on 22nd and 23rd of May. Meanwhile preparations for re-housing the tenants of these areas has been made, as in January, 1933, a contract had been let for 130 houses on the Leavesden Green Estate, and a loan for these was sanctioned by the Ministry of Health in April the same year.

The result of the Ministry's Enquiry was that the following were declared clearance areas without modification:—

1. Beechen Grove and Loates Lane Clearance Order, 1932.
2. Upper Paddock Road and Van Yean Cottages Clearance Order, 1932.
3. Red Lion Yard (Nos. 16, 17, 18 and 19) Clearance Order, 1932.
4. Red Lion Yard (Nos. 34, 35, 36 and 37) Clearance Order, 1932.
5. Chater's Yard and Albert Street Clearance Order, 1932.
6. New Road (Nos. 1, 2 and 3) and Chapman's Yard (Nos. 10 to 22) Clearance Order, 1932.
7. Wells' Yard (Nos. 14 to 22) Clearance Order, 1932.
8. Wells' Yard (Nos. 23 and 24) Clearance Order, 1932.

The Minister had decided to confirm with slight modification the following Orders:—

9. New Road (Nos. 4 to 20) Clearance Order, 1932.
10. Grove Circus and Beechen Grove Compulsory Purchase Order, 1933.
11. Wells' Yard (Nos. 1 to 13) Clearance Order, 1932.

The Minister confirmed with substantial modification the following Orders:—

- Riverside Road (Nos. 41, 43, 45 and 47) (Rookery) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1933.
- Riverside Road (Nos. 49 to 81) (Odd Numbers) (Rookery) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1933.

The Ministry was unable to confirm the Meeting Alley (Nos. 20 to 29) Clearance Order, 1932.

In order to deal with certain other areas still remaining it became necessary to draw up a second list of areas to be dealt with.

At a special Public Health Committee held on September 22nd, 1933, the Report of the Insanitary Areas Sub-Committee of 20th July, 1933, was submitted as follows:—

#### FIVE-YEAR SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME—SECOND PORTION.

The Sub-Committee, accompanied by the Medical Officer of Health, the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Mr. Maxfield, of the Borough Engineer's Department, inspected the following dwellinghouses of persons of the working classes in the Borough and made the following recommendations thereon:—

(a) Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 WRIGHT'S BUILDINGS.

The Sub-Committee recommended that this should be declared to be a clearance area and dealt with by demolition of buildings.

(b) No. 9 WRIGHT'S BUILDINGS.

The Sub-Committee recommended that this should be dealt with under Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930, as an individual unfit house not capable of repair.

(c) Nos. 5, 7, 9, 11 and 13 WATER LANE.

The Sub-Committee recommended that these houses should be dealt with as a clearance area.

(d) Nos. 1, 2 AND 3 SWAN ALLEY AND NOS. 218, 220, AND 222 HIGH STREET.

The Sub-Committee being of the opinion that these houses were capable of repair recommended that the necessary proceedings be taken under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(e) Nos. 224 AND 226 HIGH STREET.

The Sub-Committee recommended that these should be dealt with as individual houses capable of repair and that the necessary proceedings be taken under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(f) Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8 AND 9 CROWN TERRACE.

The Sub-Committee inspected these houses and recommended that they should be declared by resolution to be a clearance area and that the buildings comprised therein should be demolished.

The Committee deferred consideration of items (d) and (e).



## (1) CLEARANCE AREAS.

The Committee, upon consideration of the said report and of official representations by the Medical Officer of Health recommended that the following resolution be passed forthwith by the Council at its meeting that evening:—

- (A) That in respect of each of the areas set out in the Schedule below appearing, a resolution in the form following and headed “ General Form of Resolution ” be, and is hereby passed.

## GENERAL FORM OF RESOLUTION.

Whereas the Council, upon consideration of an official representation being satisfied as respects the area hereinafter mentioned:

- (i) that the dwellinghouses in the area, are, by reason of disrepair or sanitary defects, unfit for human habitation, or are by reason of their bad arrangement or the narrowness or bad arrangement of the streets, dangerous or injurious to the health of the inhabitants of the area;
- (ii) that the most satisfactory method of dealing with the conditions in the area is the demolition of all the buildings in the area;

have caused the area to be defined on a map in such manner as to exclude from the area any building which is not unfit for human habitation or dangerous or injurious to health.

Now the Council being also satisfied

- (a) that in so far as suitable accommodation available for persons of the working classes who will be displaced by the clearance of the area does not already exist, the Council can provide or secure the provision of such accommodation in advance of the displacements which will, from time to time, become necessary as the demolition of buildings in the areas or in different parts thereof proceed;
- (b) that the resources of the Council are sufficient for the purpose of carrying the resolution into effect;

do hereby, in pursuance of Section 1 of the Housing Act, 1930, declare the said area to be a clearance area, that is to say, an area to be cleared of all buildings in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The area above referred to is the area coloured pink on the map sealed with the Council's Seal on the Twenty-Second day of September, 1933, and marked “ Clearance Area.”

- (B) That the Town Clerk be, and he is hereby authorised, on behalf of the Council to give an undertaking to the Minister to carry out or secure the carrying out of such rehousing as the Minister considers necessary within a period specified by him having regard to the Schedule below.

- (C) That the Town Clerk be, and he is hereby authorised, to seal all documents and do all acts necessary to carry the resolutions into effect.

### SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO.

#### CLEARANCE AREAS.

1. Wright's Buildings (Nos. 1 to 5) Clearance Area.
2. Crown Terrace (Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9) Clearance Area.
3. Water Lane Clearance Area No. 1.
4. Water Lane Clearance Area No. 2.

#### (2) INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSE NOT CAPABLE OF REPAIR.

The Committee was satisfied upon consideration of the said report and of the official representation by the Medical Officer of Health that the dwellinghouse No. 9 Wright's Buildings, Watford, which was occupied or was of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes was unfit for human habitation and was not capable of being rendered so fit.

#### (3) FIVE-YEAR SLUM CLEARANCE AND RE-HOUSING PROGRAMME.

The Committee instructed the Town Clerk to prepare in conjunction with the officers concerned and submit to the Ministry the Corporation's programme for the five years 1933-1938.

At the same meeting of the Public Health Committee on September 22nd, it was reported:

Under HOUSING ACT, 1930. SECTION 19, that notices had been served pursuant to Section 19 of the Act upon the persons respectively having control of the dwellinghouses Nos. 1, 3, 4 and 5 Fox Alley, 14 Watford Fields and 1 and 2 Three Tuns Yard; Nos. 7, 8 and 9 Watford Heath; Park Cottage, Home Farm, Cassiobury Park and of No. 239 High Street and also upon any other persons who were owners thereof respectively giving notice that any offer with respect to the carrying out of works or the future user of the houses which they might respectively wish to submit would be considered by the present meeting of the Public Health Committee.

With regard to Fox Alley it was decided as follows:

No. 1, to be demolished.

No. 3, works to be carried out to render this house fit for habitation.

No. 4, not to be used for habitation until rendered fit.

No. 5, not to be used for habitation, until certain conditions have been complied with.

#### THREE TUNS YARD.

No. 1 and 2, not to be used again as human habitation, but permitted to be converted into stores.

#### NO. 14 WATFORD FIELDS.

Demolition Order to be made.



Further progress in the Re-housing Scheme was made at the Council meeting in October, 1933, when it was reported:—

- (1) That there were 118 applicants for houses for displaced persons on the Leavesden Green Estate, and that these would be ready on January 1st, 1934.
- (2) That the two Compulsory Purchase Orders for Riverside Road Area had been confirmed, with modifications, by the Ministry and it was decided that the Council should proceed with these purchases confirmed by the Minister and also promote a further Compulsory Purchase Order or Orders for the acquisition of the whole of the site originally intended to be purchased for re-housing.
- (3) That 15 further houses were comprised in areas recently declared clearance areas, and that there were in addition ten further individual unfit houses to be dealt with. It was decided to inform the Minister that probably an additional scheme of 25 additional houses would be required—this to comprise the second portion of the Five-Year plan for re-housing.

At a meeting of the Council in December, 1933, further action was also decided upon with regard to the Water Lane area. It was decided to apply to the Ministry for a Compulsory Purchase Order for certain lands set out in the Schedule (Part I) and for lands adjoining, set out in Schedule (Part II), as described below.

## THE SCHEDULE.

### PART 1.

#### Clearance Areas.

- A. Water Lane No. 1.
- B. Water Lane No. 2.

### Part 2.

#### Adjoining Land.

Row of dwelling houses closed for human habitation and now used as shops and known as 7a, 7b, 7c and 7d, Water Lane, Watford, sheds, outhouses and appurtenant land.

### (b) SCHEMES TO RELIEVE SHORTAGE.

Watford has done much to provide municipal housing accommodation, perhaps as much as any town of its size in England. During the year 1933, there were under construction 100 more houses for shortage on the Leavesden Green Estate and 18 on the Harebreaks Estate. These were not completed and occupied until 1934. There were, however, 207 houses built by private enterprise during 1933. As a result of these various efforts the housing situation is becoming a little easier. At the time of writing this report, Mr. Pickering informs me that he has about 600 applicants on his list for Corporation houses, but he estimates that nearly half these are already in possession of a house.



Applicants of the latter class are in some cases, however, still needing or desiring accommodation in a Corporation house. The house they have obtained may be only a temporary expedient until the Corporation house, which is their intended goal, is available. In addition it may be too small for the family, too expensive, or inconvenient for other reasons. However, when allowance has been made for all these factors, there is no doubt that a considerable improvement has taken place during the last few years and that the shortage is becoming much less acute.

(c) **CORPORATION HOUSING SCHEMES COMPLETED.**

(At the end of the year 1933).

The list of houses given below includes not only those erected to relieve shortage, but also houses built for the re-housing of tenants from insanitary areas which have been demolished.

**LIST OF HOUSES OWNED BY CORPORATION.**

**ASSISTED SCHEMES. 1919 ACT (Total 953).**

Harebreaks (G. Brightman and Son)	...	...	...	828
Harebreaks (Garden Cities Co.)	...	...	...	47
Sidney Road ...	...	...	...	28
Rickmansworth Road	...	...	...	10
Rose Gardens	...	...	...	40

**PRE-1919 SCHEME**

Willow Lane	...	...	...	22
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**1923 ACT SCHEME.**

Rookery Road	...	...	...	40
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**1924 ACT SCHEME (Total 326).**

Wiggenhall Hall Estate	...	...	...	*122
Harebreaks (Gammons Farm Estate)	...	...	...	124
Eastbury Road (Thorpe Crescent)...	...	...	...	80

**TENANT PURCHASE SCHEMES (Total 112).**

Leggatts Way	...	...	...	16
Harebreaks	...	...	...	54
Blackwell Drive	...	...	...	24
Eastbury Road	...	...	...	18

TOTAL ... 1,453

\*Includes 114 houses built for re-housing schemes.

In addition to the above list of 1,453 houses, which were completed at the end of 1933, there were also in course of construction during this year, 100 houses for shortage at Leavesden Green, 18 for shortage at Harebreaks (Elm Grove), and 130 for re-housing at Leavesden Green. When these schemes are completed there will be a **grand total of 1,701 houses owned by the Corporation.**

## ADVANCES FOR HOUSE PURCHASE.

Much has been done by the Corporation in assisting private enterprise by means of loans. Mr. J. Ginger, the Borough Treasurer, reported to the Housing Committee on April 3rd, 1934, that the position with regard to advances to the 1st April, 1934, for purpose of acquiring houses, was as follows :—

	Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts 1899-1923		Housing Act 1925 Section 92		TOTAL.	
	No.	Amt. £	No.	Amt. £	No.	Amt. £
Amount Offered ...	1,262	741,920	155	117,200	1,417	859,120
Amount Advanced...	1,247	732,210	155	117,200	1,402	849,410
Amount Repaid ...	—	200,033	—	58,080	—	258,113
Amount Outstanding	—	<u>£532,177</u>	—	<u>£59,120</u>	—	<u>£591,297</u>

## (d) HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1933.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	207
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	*12

\* Disabled Officers' Homes at Leavesden

## I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING - HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	643
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2,041
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	281
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	511
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	136
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	472

## II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 463

## III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

### A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... Nil
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By owners ... Nil
  - (b) By local authority in default of owners ... Nil

### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- 1.—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By owners ... Nil
  - (b) By local authority in default of owners ... Nil

### C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 118
2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... In Progress 1934

### D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil



## V. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The following tabulated statement (required by the Secretary of State) gives details of inspections, etc.

### 1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Number of Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
<b>Factories</b> ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	98	47	—
<b>Workshops</b> ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	158	46	—
<b>Workplaces</b> ... .. Other than Outworkers' premises	12	3	—
<b>Total</b> ... ..	268	96	—

### 2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	75	75	—	—
Want of Ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances ... ..	14	14	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective ... ..	5	5	—	—
{ not separate for sexes ... ..	2	2	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Offences ... .. (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b> ... ..	96	96	—	—

\*Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

## VI. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### (a) MILK.

There are 3 cowsheds in occupation in the Borough and in these sheds there are 55 cows kept, the milk from which is used in the district. Besides these there are no less than 63 different milk supplies produced in other districts which come into the Borough.

During the year 127 samples of milk have been taken and these have been examined by Drs. Beale and Suckling for tuberculosis, etc. The following table shows the result of these examinations:—

Number of Samples ...	127
„ found satisfactory ...	110, or 86·61 per cent.
„ „ with tubercle bacilli	<i>Nil.</i>
„ „ with blood or pus cells	17, or 13·38 per cent.

It is worthy of note that not a single sample of milk contained any trace of tubercle bacilli.

In all cases where the samples were not satisfactory the Authority for the district in which the milk was produced was communicated with, and each case was dealt with by the Authority responsible.

In addition to these samples, in accordance with the Ministry's instructions, systematic samples have been taken of "Certified" and "Grade A" (T.T.) milk, in certain cases.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1923.—Under this Order there are four licensed vendors of Grade A (T.T.) milk, but there are no producers in the Borough of milk under special designations. There is no licensed apparatus in the Borough for the pasteurisation of milk, although this process is partially and unofficially carried out in connection with some of the milk sold in the Borough.

There is evidence that the amount of milk sold under special designations is increasing and this is undoubtedly a satisfactory development.

### (b) MEAT.

Watford is an important centre for the slaughter of animals, and the Kosher method is practised at one large slaughter house in the town. A full-time officer is engaged in food inspection, the greater part of his time being employed in connection with duties at the slaughter houses.

The following is a tabular statement of the number of slaughter houses in the town:—

		In 1920		In January, 1930		In December, 1933
Registered	...	6	...	6	...	6
Licensed	...	5	...	5	...	4
		—		—		—
Total	...	11		11		10
		==		==		==

1933.

**FOOD INSPECTION.****Total number of Animals examined.**

Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
2,756	13,304	13,805	2,804

**Condemned and Destroyed.**

1,051 st. English Beef.  
 363 st. Imported Beef.  
 9 st. English Mutton.  
 207 st. Pork.  
 14 st. Frozen Mutton.  
 11 st. Veal.  
 52 Beasts and all Organs (Weight, 3,549 st.)  
 11 Calves and all Organs.  
 163 Beasts' Lungs.  
 139 „ Livers.  
 124 „ Heads.  
 124 „ Tongues.  
 68 „ Other Organs.  
 128 Cows' Udders.  
 26 Sheep and all Organs (Weight 187 st.)  
 133 Sheep's Plucks.  
 48 „ Kidneys (frozen).  
 18 „ Heads.  
 43 Pigs and all Organs (Weight 538 st.)  
 189 „ Heads.  
 209 „ Plucks.  
 10 st. Haddocks.  
 12 Cases of Imported Sausages.



11 st. Cod.

12 st. Skate.

9 st. Catfish.

12 st. Herrings.

31 st. Mixed Fish.

1 Box Kippers.

7 st. Fish Fillets.

95 Tins Corned Beef.

102 Tins various Fruits.

27 Rabbits.

9 Tins frozen Lambs' Livers.

2 Tins Ox Tongues.

1 Tin Prawns.

8 Turkeys.

70 Bags Potatoes.

6 Tins Salmon.

151 Tins Milk.

14 lbs. Mushrooms.

TABLE SHOWING EXTENT OF TUBERCULOUS DISEASES IN ANIMALS EXAMINED, YEAR  
ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1933.

Kind of Animal.	Number Examined.	Of which were Tuberculous.	Heads.	Thorax.			Abdomen.								Udders	Entire Carcases Condemned owing to Tuberculosis.
				Lungs.	Hearts and Pericardii	Serous Membranes	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Uteri	Serous Membranes	Mesenteries		
Beasts ... ..	2,756	{ 4 Bulls 118 Cows 14 Heifers 33 Bullocks — 169 =	124	151	50	80	98	52	52	51	52	30	52	52	34	1 Bull 46 Cows 1 Heifer 4 Bullocks — 52 =
Sheep ... ..	13,304	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
Pigs ... ..	13,805	222	209	177	9	26	22	16	16	16	16	2	16	16	2	16 Pigs
Calves ... ..	2,804	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	1	3	4	—	4	4	—	4 Calves
Totals ...	32,669	395	337	332	63	110	124	72	69	70	72	32	72	72	36	72

## VII. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCARLET FEVER.—Towards the end of 1925 there was an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever, which corresponded with a similar increase in the Metropolitan area and also in the district around Watford. During the year 1925 there were notified 149 cases, and in 1926 there were 183 notifications. In 1927 the number of cases fell to 91, but during 1928 another mild epidemic occurred which caused 183 cases to be notified. This prevalence of a mild type of scarlet fever continued through the year 1929, when 190 cases occurred in the Borough. During 1930 there was a gradually diminishing prevalence of the disease, and in 1931 there was a considerable decline in the number of cases, which continued through 1932.

A glance at the table below shows that increased prevalence of scarlet fever tends to recur at more or less regular intervals.

Fortunately the cases during the last few years have been extremely mild, so mild that none of the 149 cases proved fatal in 1925. In 1926 only one death occurred, and in 1927 two deaths, in 1928 only one death out of 183 cases, and again in 1929 one death out of 190 cases, and in 1930 only one death out of 118 cases. In 1931 and 1932 no death occurred in Watford from scarlet fever. Towards the end of 1933, there was a considerable increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever in the Borough which is shown in the following table.



## PREVALENCE OF SCARLET FEVER IN WATFORD.

since 1892.

Year	Total number Scarlet Fever cases notified	Attack rate per 1,000	Number cases sent to Hospital	Number of deaths
1892	52	2.5	No Record	—
1893	364	18.0	268	7
1894	60	2.9	No Record	1
1895	66	3.0	64	3
1896	44	1.5	38	—
1897	46	1.8	41	—
1898	33	1.3	31	2
1899	190	7.0	No Record	4
1900	150	5.4	136	—
1901	130	3.9	119	3
1902	264	8.8	231	1
1903	155	5.0	130	2
1904	220	7.0	198	4
1905	117	3.4	98	—
1906	197	5.6	175	7
1907	254	7.0	225	5
1908	92	2.5	82	2
1909	121	2.8	106	—
1910	120	3.0	110	2
1911	102	2.4	93	1
1912	80	1.9	61	2
1913	58	1.4	58	—
1914	116	2.8	92	1
1915	100	2.3	94	2
1916	74	1.7	70	No Record
1917	26	0.6	26	—
1918	25	0.6	23	—
1919	164	4.0	138	—
1920	213	4.7	173	1
1921	181	4.0	149	—
1922	64	1.4	50	—
1923	35	0.7	29	1
1924	24	0.5	20	—
1925	149	3.0	131	None
1926	183	3.6	147	1
1927	91	1.7	79	2
1928	183	3.3	152	1
1929	190	3.4	151	1
1930	118	2.1	103	1
1931	64	1.1	52	None
1932	45	0.7	41	None
1933	89	1.5	83	2

DIPHTHERIA.—Fortunately Watford is not a town where there is usually a large incidence of cases of diphtheria, and only 20 cases occurred during the last year, as compared with 61 in 1932 and 94 in 1931. No death from this disease occurred in 1933 as compared with two in 1932, six in 1931 and eleven in 1930.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Only one case of enteric fever was notified during the year 1932.

ERYSIPELAS.—Six cases were notified as compared with seventeen in the previous year.

PUERPERAL SEPSIS.—Eight cases were notified, seven being mild cases described as puerperal pyrexia, and one notified as puerperal fever, which was removed to Queen Charlotte Special Hospital, Hammersmith. No death from puerperal sepsis occurred in 1933 and only one from other puerperal causes.

CHICKEN POX AND MEASLES are not notifiable diseases in this Borough.

PNEUMONIA (which includes primary pneumonia and influenzal pneumonia).—Thirty-seven cases were notified. This notification is of some value at times when influenza is prevalent, in order to show the extent of the epidemic.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—The usual seasonal occurrence of these diseases resulted in six deaths from whooping cough, and none from measles. It will be seen from these figures that whooping cough was more virulent than in the previous year when only two deaths occurred.

INFLUENZA.—There was a serious outbreak of influenza at the beginning of the year which resulted in thirty-two deaths as compared with nineteen in the previous year. The worst outbreak of influenza in recent years was in 1929 when forty-five deaths occurred. Towards the end of 1933 influenza was not very prevalent.

VENEREAL DISEASES are dealt with by the County Council. No treatment centres have been established in the County owing to facilities for treatment which are easily available in London. Cases of this disease occasionally present themselves at the Public Health Offices, and are directed to obtain treatment at one of the London hospitals. In certain necessitous cases, who were unable to afford the fares to London, the County Council has, from time to time, defrayed this expense in order to assist the obtaining of treatment.

TABLE D.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1933—BOROUGH OF WATFORD

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Cases notified in whole District												Total cases notified in each locality							Total cases removed to Hospital	No. of Deaths			
	At all ages	At ages											Harebreaks	Bradshaw	St. Andrews	Cassiobury	Harwoods	Kings	Queens			Oxhey		
		under 1	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	10 years	15 years	20 years	35 years	45 years											65 years and up	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	20	—	2	1	1	1	8	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	8	19	3	—	—
Erysipelas	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	89	1	1	5	3	8	37	16	6	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	83	2	—	—
Typhus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro spinal Meningitis	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Poliomyelitis	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	3	1	3	2	2	4	—	4	5	4	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	179	5	1	6	11	6	11	49	19	13	27	10	21	17	20	20	13	29	13	112	42	—	—	—



TABLE E shows that one case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified.

TABLE E.—OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases			Vision Unim- paired	Vision Im- paired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home	At Hos- pital				
	One	Nil	One				

TABLE F shows the number of cases of tuberculosis notified and the number of deaths from this disease.

TABLE F.—TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	1	5	3	1	—	—	1	—
10	...	...	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	4	4	—	2	—	—	1	1
20	...	...	9	9	2	—	2	2	—	—
25	...	...	9	15	—	—	2	3	—	—
35	...	...	11	5	1	1	7	9	—	1
45	...	...	10	3	3	—	4	2	—	1
55	...	...	3	—	2	—	6	3	—	—
65 and upwards			1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
TOTALS	...		48	44	14	5	25	19	2	3

Of the 49 cases who died from tuberculosis, 40 were notified and 9 un-notified

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62. It was not found necessary to take action under the powers given by either of these. There are only three cowsheds in the Borough and none of these employ workers suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. With regard to compulsory removal to hospital of persons in an infectious state suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, up to the present time no cases have arisen where removal was necessary.

VISITS TO TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS.—These are paid by the Health Visitors of the Borough. The object of the visit is chiefly to ensure that precaution against infections are taken, to advise about general care of the health, and to ascertain whether home and sanitary conditions are satisfactory. During the year 385 visits of this nature were paid. There are several shelters in use by patients in the Borough.

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## VIII. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SCHEME.

This is a scheme which has expanded gradually with the growth of the Borough and in accordance with local requirements. The first Health Visitor was appointed in 1910, and this was followed in 1913 by a second appointment, a third Health Visitor being appointed in 1930, together with a clerk for Maternity and Child Welfare work. For many years there was only one Centre which was held in the Hut at 1 St. Albans Road, but this became very overcrowded owing to attendance of mothers, not only from all parts of the Borough, but also from the villages around Watford. A demand arose for a Centre at Oxhey, and in response a Centre was opened in April, 1930, at the Church Hall, Elfrida Road. At the time there was difficulty in finding a suitable hall in Oxhey, but if a new Parish Hall is built in Eastbury Road, it will then be possible to consider whether the work should be transferred to this centre. In 1931 a new Centre was opened for North Watford at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, and is well attended.

### (a) STATISTICS.

The following three tables give statistics of the work, including that of previous years for the sake of comparison:—

#### I. Visits by Health Visitors.

			1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
First visits	...	...	877	683	750	723	785	689
Re-visits	...	...	2597	2855	3094	3155	3088	3036
Visits 1-5 years	...	...	990	1075	2145	2062	1283	1555
Ante-natal	...	...	106	120	319	285	218	†223
Tuberculosis, Dental visits								
etc.	...	...	495	455	538	545	382	354
Total visits paid	...	...	5065	5088	6846	6770	5756	5857

†Including 135 first visits and 88 re-visits.

#### II. Attendances at the Centres.

Centre.		Weighings.	Consulta- tions.	Number of Infants on Books.	New Cases Examined.
The Hut	...	4,633	762	448	230
Elfrida Road	...	3,167	617	304	179
North Watford...	...	3,686	634	357	222
Totals...	...	11,486	2,013	1,109	631



## III. Other Statistics.

			1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
<hr/>								
<i>Ante-natal clinic:—</i>								
Mothers attending	...	...	279	282	257	264	231	200
Total attendances	...	...	777	832	809	818	768	568
<i>Dental Clinic:—</i>								
Ante-natal cases	...	...	30	29	43	34	31	36
Nursing mothers	...	...	62	57	56	80	76	55
Children	...	...	45	69	68	76	82	115
<i>School for Mothers:—</i>								
Attendances	...	...	639	573	542	504	400	368
<i>Orthopædic Centre:—</i>								
Cases referred for treatment			58	45	34	63	63	73
<i>Free Milk:—</i>								
Number of Cases	...		69	82	87	109	114	112

ATTENDANCES OF INFANTS FROM OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH.—One hundred and forty-eight children were brought to the various centres from places outside the Borough, such as Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, King's Langley, Abbot's Langley, Bushey, Aldenham, Bricket Wood, Elstree, etc. Such cases are at liberty to attend if the parents wish it, and a small grant is available from the County Council funds in respect of such attendances. There were 697 attendances on the part of the 148 cases mentioned. The above figures include 36 children attending the Dental Clinic, fourteen at the Toddlers' Clinic and four Ante-natal cases.

## (b) RED CROSS ORTHOPÆDIC CENTRE.

Mr. S. L. Higgs, F.R.C.S., attends as consultant at the Centre which is now held in Queen's Road. A large number of cases are referred each year from the Infant Welfare Centre. A block grant of £40 per annum is given by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee towards the cost of treatment, and a further grant for splints. In addition, cases referred for treatment at the Orthopædic Hospital are also assisted. Particulars of the number of cases referred to the orthopædic centre since its opening will be found in the table of statistics at the beginning of this section of the report. The following is a list of 73 cases referred this year and the treatment given, with the exception of three cases where it was only necessary to give advice.

## INFANT WELFARE CENTRE CASES FOR 1933.

## WATFORD.

Knock Knees	...	...	...	...	21
Bow Legs	...	...	...	...	22
Congenital Club Feet	...	...	...	...	14
Flat Foot	...	...	...	...	6
Congenital Wry Neck	...	...	...	...	2
Spastic Paralysis	...	...	...	...	1
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	...	1
Birth Palsy	...	...	...	...	1
Other conditions	...	...	...	...	5
					—
					73
					==
Splints Supplied	...	...	...	...	18
Alterations to Boots and Shoes	...	...	...	...	38
Valgus Insoles	...	...	...	...	10
Operations	...	...	...	...	3
X-ray	...	...	...	...	1
Advice only...	...	...	...	...	3
					—
					73
					==

It is very satisfactory that the Red Cross Clinic has now secured permanent premises on a site at the rear of the County Council Clinic in Queen's Road and with an entrance in Grosvenor Road. The great importance of the work carried on in these premises is very obvious, not only to the general population of the district, but particularly in respect of infants and school children.

With regard to the cases sent from the Infant Welfare Centres, it is far easier to deal with them in infancy than at a later stage in life. With early treatment in infancy it is frequently found that a comparatively short course of splinting or manipulation will cure the deformity instead of later on, either operative treatment or a long period of remedial care.

(c) **PRE-SCHOOL CLINIC.**

A new development of the work in Watford was the establishment this year of a clinic for the examination of children between infancy and school life. The great value of this work is that it fills the gap between the Infant Welfare Centre and the period when the child comes under notice at the time of its first medical inspection on entering a Council School. Certain treatment which it would have received at the time of entrance to school life is thus anticipated, with the result that the child gets the benefit of earlier treatment of defects found. Dr. Margaret Ward has been appointed Medical Officer of the Clinic and reports as follows:—

**REPORT ON MEDICAL INSPECTION OF TODDLERS, 1933.**

The Pre-school or Toddlers' Clinic was opened in May, 1933 with the object of providing regular medical examination of children from eighteen months to five years of age.

A weekly session is held, and attendances are arranged by means of appointments. The children examined have been drawn from previous attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres, and also from non-attenders.

During the eight months of the Clinic's existence, 33 sessions were held. The total number of children examined was 337, and of these 102 had never attended before. At the inspections, a complete physical inspection is made, and some idea is formed as to the mental make-up of the child, its attitude to the family, and its general behaviour.

A large proportion of cases needing attention in some form or other were discovered, and these were referred to the appropriate quarters.

Many cases of difficulty in the management of the child were discussed, and advice given as to diet, hygiene, and training in good habits. In many cases it was obvious that the child's difficult attitude was caused by the mother's (and possibly the father's) own attitude—her over-anxiety for, or in some cases, antagonism to, the child. An attempt was made in the short time available to direct matters in the right lines.

A number of cases were found to need keeping under observation, and mothers were encouraged to pay revisits at suitable intervals.

It will be noted from the table that nearly half the children examined are recorded under the heading nutrition as "Good," and only a small proportion, namely 1·2 per cent., as "Poor." Considering economic conditions during the year this may be regarded as fairly satisfactory, specially as some of the cases of poor nutrition were due to such causes as nervous instability or enlarged tonsils, rather than to lack of nourishment.

As regards rickets, there was one case of active disease, and six of healed, making percentages of 0·3 and 1·7 respectively.



It will be seen that the largest figure, namely 149, comes under nose and throat. Enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and enlarged glands (tonsillar and post-cervical) are grouped together. Many of the cases of enlarged glands were of a purely temporary character, and in no instance was there any suspicion of tuberculosis. Where necessary, operation was advised for enlarged tonsils and adenoids.

The next largest group is that of the nervous system. This takes in behaviour symptoms, which include nervous phenomena of various sorts, notably in those cases of difficulty in management, already referred to, and also a group showing backwardness in some form, such as walking, talking and good habits.

The group headed "Heart and Circulation" contains 86 cases, of which 35 are "Functional Heart Disease" and will probably prove to be of a transient character. There were 51 cases of anaemia, none of which appear to be serious.

Under the heading "Deformities" are included various orthopaedic conditions. Most of these cases were either having treatment already, or were referred to the orthopaedic clinic for treatment.

There were seventy-six cases, or twenty-three per cent., showing carious teeth, many of which required immediate attention. Most of these were referred to the Dental Clinic.

On the whole, response to advice regarding treatment and management was good, and in only a few cases was it neglected.

It is regrettable to note that only seventy children, or twenty-one per cent., were found to be vaccinated.

MARGARET WARD, M.D., D.P.H.

The defects found at the Pre-School Clinic are given in the table which follows. It will be seen from Dr. Ward's report that the figures are remarkably good with regard to cleanliness and there are comparatively few cases of eye and ear disease. The comparative absence of rickets is also worthy of note, being almost phenomenal compared with heavy incidence of this disease in some industrial towns. Doubtless with the assistance of X-rays a larger percentage of rickets could be discovered, but as regards signs and symptoms the disease is almost a negligible quantity in Watford, well marked cases being extremely rare.

#### MEDICAL INSPECTION OF TODDLERS, 1933.

Disease, Defect or condition						Total
Nutrition:						
(a) Good	...	...	...	...	...	165
(b) Fair	...	...	...	...	...	129
(c) Poor	...	...	...	...	...	43

Disease, Defect or condition						Total
Muscular Tone:						
(a)	Good	...	...	...	...	101
(b)	Fair	...	...	...	...	112
(c)	Poor	...	...	...	...	24
Clothing and Footgear:						
(a)	Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	303
(b)	Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	34
Cleanliness:						
(a)	Good	...	...	...	...	307
(b)	Fair	...	...	...	...	30
(c)	Dirty	...	...	...	...	0
Skin:						
	Minor Skin conditions	...	...	...	...	43
Eye:						
	Squint	...	...	...	...	5
Ear:						
	Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	5
Nose and Throat:						
	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	...	66
	Enlarged Glands	...	...	...	...	83
Teeth:						
	Caries ...	...	...	...	...	76
Heart and Circulation:						
Heart Disease:						
(a)	Functional	...	...	...	...	35
(b)	Organic	...	...	...	...	0
	Anaemia	...	...	...	...	51
Lungs:						
	Bronchitis, etc.	...	...	...	...	0
Nervous System:						
	Minor Retardation (Speech, etc.)	...	...	...	...	25
	Behaviour Symptoms	...	...	...	...	86
	Organic Disease	...	...	...	...	0
Alimentary System:						
	Minor Ailments	...	...	...	...	32
Genito-Urinary System:						
	Organic Disease	...	...	...	...	0
Rickets:						
	Active	...	...	...	...	1
	Healed	...	...	...	...	6

Disease, Defect or condition						Total
Deformities:						
Genu Valgum	...	...	...	...	...	64
Flat feet	...	...	...	...	...	10
Scoliosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Minor Defects		...	...	...	...	4
Vaccination	...	...	...	...	...	70
Children who had never attended a Clinic before	...	...	...	...	...	102
Total children examined	...	...	...	...	...	337

Another important branch of the work is

(d) **THE ANTE-NATAL CENTRE.**

Dr. Winifred Piggott, Medical Officer, reports as follows:—

During the year 1933 the clinic for expectant mothers has been held every Thursday afternoon at Little Nascot without a single break. I have examined 200 individual women with a total attendance of 568 visits. Most of our cases are referred to the Clinic by midwives, the majority by the Watford midwives, but a few come from the villages around Watford for diagnosis or for special difficulties.

The Watford midwives come with their patients and have, this year, been very regular in their attendance. One of them is present on the second and fourth Thursday and the other on the first and third.

If the midwife does not happen to be present at the examination any special advice or warning is given to her by letter or through Miss Hammond, who is my invaluable helper. The midwives are keen on their work and do their best to get every one of their cases to attend at least once. The young mothers are anxious themselves to come and on the whole follow the advice given to them very well. We have had this year no cases of eclampsia amongst out-patients though many have had albuminuria with a raised blood pressure. These cases are carefully watched and asked to attend either every fortnight or every week and the midwife is told to refer every case that does not respond quickly to treatment to the patient's own doctor, whilst if I am particularly anxious about a case I myself write a letter to the doctor. Thirty-nine women were referred to the Dental Clinic for treatment, but only 25 availed themselves of this facility. There is still a great prejudice amongst mothers against having extraction of teeth during pregnancy, it is in many cases just a good excuse not to have anything done. I do my best to persuade them as I have never seen any harm come of it, and in fact septic roots are in many cases the cause of toxæmia.

The main object of the Clinic is to forestall the difficulties of abnormal labours, so that no doctor may have to complain that he was called in by the midwife at the last moment <sup>when</sup> ~~that~~ a happy issue was already badly prejudiced by delay and misjudgment. The next object is to advise the mothers as to their general health, what to eat and what to



avoid, how to lead a life according to the best rules of hygiene, and to obtain for those in very poor circumstances the extra pint of milk which is so valuable to the mother and her baby. The third object is to detect the first signs of failure on the part of the mother to eliminate the natural waste products of herself and her baby. For this the urine is carefully tested at each attendance and the blood pressure is taken every time in all primiparae, and at the slightest indication of failure in the mother's health in all multiparae. Miss Hammond and the nurses help me with this and also with getting the patients ready for examination. Without their help we could not get through the work in reasonable time and without keeping the mothers waiting too long for their turn.

WINIFRED PIGGOTT, M.B.B.S.

### BENEVOLENT FUND.

Miss Hammond reports as follows:—

This fund is raised by small donations from mothers attending the Clinics also from the profits on teas provided. The sum raised amounted to £12 18s. 8d.

This sum was expended chiefly in sending children to the Convalescent Home at St. Leonards-on-Sea. Nineteen children were sent and helped from the fund. In some cases the whole fee was paid and in others half the cost. In all thirty children were sent and ten mothers and babies.

The Convalescent Home is provided by the Herts County Council at the very cheap cost of 10s. per week for a mother and baby and 5s. per week for toddlers. In addition a voucher is sent by the Matron which enables them to travel half price.

The amount paid from the fund was £11 15s. 10d. and in addition, wool was bought and vests were made by various friends, and an umbilical belt was bought for a baby with a bad hernia.

Gifts of clothing, woolly garments, toys, etc., were received from the following ladies and others:—

Mrs. Britton, Aldenham Road, cots, high chair, toys.

Lady Caulcutt, boots, blankets, clothing, toys, and parcels of groceries.

Mrs. Simmons, clothing.

Mr. Councillor Bennell, cot.

Mrs. King, Park Road, vests.

Miss Rogers, Girls' Grammar School, clothing, coal, etc.

Miss Beattie, Victoria Girls' School, woolly vests.

Thirty-six garments from the Herts Needlework Guild, and various parcels of clothing from mothers attending the centres.

Electric clock from Mr. Councillor Coates for the Hut.

### INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The Borough of Watford is now responsible for carrying out this work which was formerly done in connection with the old Poor Law Administration. The following figures have been compiled by Miss Hammond:—

Number of persons on register who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	24
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

### FOSTER CHILDREN.

Coming under observation during 1933	...	...	...	...	47
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Number on books at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	36
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(a) 13 were under twelve months.

(b) 23 were over twelve months and under seven years of age.

Number that entered Watford with their foster children	...	...	1
--	-----	-----	---

Removed from observation during the year:

(a) Number given up	...	...	...	...	6
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) Died...	...	...	...	...	1
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(c) Legally adopted	...	...	...	...	1
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(d) Removed to Institutions	...	...	...	...	2
-----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(e) Left Watford with their foster parents	...	...	...	1
--	-----	-----	-----	---

(f) Reached the age of seven	...	...	...	2
------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

Remaining under observation:

(a) Under twelve months	...	...	...	...	13
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(b) Over twelve months	...	...	...	...	23
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

TOTAL	...	36
-------	-----	----

It will be seen from the above figures that the number of children in care of foster mothers in Watford is comparatively small. Miss Hammond reports that generally speaking these children are very well cared for. Most of them are brought regularly to a centre and are thus kept under careful supervision. In addition regular visits are paid to the homes. There is not the least doubt that the co-ordination of this work with that of the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme of the Borough was a useful and necessary development.

**DENTAL CLINIC.**—A dental clinic is held for nursing and expectant mothers and for children under five years of age. The work is steadily increasing and 206 cases received treatment during the past year. Eighteen sessions were held. Eleven mothers were provided with new dentures, either whole or partial sets, and in eight cases part of the cost was paid by the Council.



## MILK (MOTHERS' AND CHILDREN'S) ORDER, 1920.

Under this Order free milk has been supplied to 112 cases during the past year. It is usual to supply a pint of milk per day in necessitous cases, the circumstances being carefully investigated by the Health Visitor. In some cases it is found that dried milk is more useful than fresh milk, as the infant in question is sometimes better suited by this arrangement. The milk may be supplied for an ill-nourished infant or nursing mother or for an expectant mother. Below are given the amounts spent on cases for the years 1931, 1932 and 1933. It was not possible to give more recent particulars of this expenditure.

## EXPENDITURE ON FREE MILK.

	Fresh Milk.			Dried Milk.			TOTAL.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
March, 1930, to March, 1931 ...	75	0	0	43	5	8	108	5	8
March, 1931, to March, 1932 ...	84	7	1	44	16	0	126	3	1
March, 1932, to March, 1933 ...	93	12	4	46	15	3	140	7	7

**VOLUNTARY WORKERS.**—In the scheme for Maternity and Child Welfare much valuable assistance has been rendered by voluntary workers. We have always relied to some extent in past years on this assistance, but at the present time the number of voluntary workers is greater than in the past and their services are available at all three Centres. In addition to helping at the Centres, some of these ladies also serve on the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, many of them devoting a large amount of time to this form of public service. Their presence at the Centres is very helpful and encouraging to the mothers, and one has much pleasure in placing on record this appreciation of their work.

**NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.**—Under the Notification of Births Acts 1907 and 1915 all births should be notified to the M.O.H. within 36 hours. Persons competent to notify are the parent, the medical attendant or the midwife in attendance. If the birth is not notified in this way some delay may occur, owing to the fact that the information is then obtained through the Registrar of Births, a period of six weeks being allowed for registration.

The following list gives the number of births notified from various sources including 25 still births:—

Notified by:—

(a) Medical Practitioners and Parents	...	157
(b) Midwives	... ..	547
(c) Registrar of Births, not having been previously notified	... ..	130
		<hr/>
		834
		<hr/>



## IX. MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS, WATFORD AREA, 1933.

The Medical Officer of Health of the Borough of Watford is responsible for medical inspection of the following schools:—

Chater, Field, Parkgate Road, Holy Rood Roman Catholic, Beechen Grove Boys, Higher Elementary and Beechen Grove Special, and the following report therefore relates chiefly to these schools. For more detailed information the report of the County Medical Officer should be consulted.

The children of these schools constitute about half the total number in the elementary schools of the Borough, the remaining schools in the town being dealt with by Dr. Buchanan.

The following groups of children were inspected:—

- (1) Those children just admitted to school—"entrants."
- (2) Children born in year 1925 known as the "intermediate group."
- (3) The group known as "leavers," in which are included all those children known to be on the point of leaving and those who have not been previously examined.

In all, 1,119 children were examined in the course of routine inspection. Of these 1,119 children, 367 (or 31·3 per cent.) were found to be suffering from defects which required medical treatment. Altogether the 367 children were suffering from 416 defects, as it is quite common for one child to have two conditions which require treatment, e.g., enlarged tonsils and carious teeth.

**TREATMENT OF AILMENTS FOUND.**—In the majority of cases, treatment was obtained by the parents, on, or shortly after, receiving notification of the defect from the medical inspector.

The following table gives a list of ailments for which parents were advised to obtain treatment either at the hands of their family doctor, or at the Cental Clinic, or in the case of enlarged tonsils, by operative or other treatment by the staff of the Peace Memorial Hospital or their own medical attendant. The results of this procedure are also shown in the table. In addition advice was given in many instances to parents attending the inspections with regard to functional heart disease, anæmia, poor nutrition and various minor ailments.

Disease.	Number of children affected.		Number treated.		Under treatment.		No action taken by parents.	
Carious Teeth	...	249	...	193	...	50	...	6
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	46	...	42	...	4	...	—
Defective Vision	...	115	...	108	...	7	...	—
Other cases	...	6	...	6	...	—	...	—



**TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.**—46 cases received operative treatment in 1933, as compared with 66 in 1932 and 82 in 1931. The policy of advising removal in certain specified conditions has again been followed as reported last year. These conditions are as follows, septic tonsils causing general toxæmia or considerable enlargement of the cervical lymphatic glands, or tonsils causing obstruction to breathing. In addition in the case of adenoids it was considered necessary to advise removal in cases of deafness or when a chronic nasal or aural discharge was present due to adenoid growth.

**DEFECTIVE VISION.**—In 115 cases, defective vision received treatment by means of spectacles, as compared with 97 in 1932 and 75 in 1931. The increased number of cases does not indicate a greater incidence of visual defect, but a more general recognition on the part of the parents of the importance of care of the eyesight.

**DENTAL TREATMENT.**—There is a Dental Treatment Centre of the Hertfordshire County Council in Watford in addition to the Dental Clinic of the Borough of Watford. This does not indicate overlapping of authorities as these two institutions deal with different age periods. The Dental Clinic of the Borough provides treatment for children of the pre-school age (under five years) and also for nursing and expectant mothers. The County Council Centre is held on behalf of the school children, not only of the Borough, but also from outlying places such as Bushey, Croxley Green, Sarratt, etc. Particulars of the work done at the centre are given in this Report. It is satisfactory to find that there is an increasing number of children with sound dentures year by year. This is no doubt largely due to the work of the centre, but if it were possible to bring about certain improvements in the diet of school children this increase of school children with sound dentures would rapidly be speeded up. In addition this change in dietetic habits would result in much less need for dental treatment than is the case at present. It appears that there is great need for further education of public in the matter of diet. The Infant Welfare Centre and the Ante-Natal Clinic are no doubt playing a useful part in giving advice about diet. In addition the care given to the teeth of school children of pre-school age is of some assistance by providing early treatment.

**MALNUTRITION.**—There is no doubt that the present times of economic difficulty are having a bad effect on the nutrition of school children. Whilst extreme cases showing marked anæmia and loss of weight are uncommon, there is present in many children a slighter form of anæmia, and generally impaired health, due to insufficient food in some cases and unsuitable diet in others.

**CLEANLINESS.**—The School Nurse has carried out the supervision of this matter in a very efficient and thorough manner. It is highly satisfactory to report that very dirty or verminous cases become rarer each year. Watford is without doubt a town with a comparatively high standard of cleanliness. The cleanly state of the



children is partly due to this fact. In addition, however, medical inspection and the steady work of the School Nurse year after year have also played an important part in providing this state of affairs. The Nurse has held 71 primary inspections in the school during the year, and on 159 occasions has re-visited the schools to follow up the work. The number of inspections and re-inspections reached the total of 20,294 during the last year.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.**—For the information of School Teachers and others interested in this matter a list of the commoner infectious diseases with their incubation and exclusion periods is included in an appendix to this Report as in past years. The policy of disinfecting classrooms in the various schools after the occurrence of a case of scarlet fever or diphtheria has been continued during the past year. The classrooms are sprayed with formalin solution, but the value of this process is greatly enhanced if it is followed by thorough cleansing on the part of the caretaker and free ventilation of the premises. It should also be noted that any school books which are suspected of infection will be disinfected at the Public Health Department free of charge on application by the Head Teacher. It is advisable to burn exercise books or other less valuable articles which have been used by the case if they are of a nature to harbour infection.

The number of classrooms disinfected during the year 1933 was 50 as compared with 51 in 1932, 71 in 1931 and 120 in 1930, the lesser number of disinfections being due to diminished prevalence of scarlet fever and diphtheria, during the greater part of the year. Influenza was rife at the beginning of the year and measles, mumps and chicken pox later on. These diseases played havoc with school attendance towards the close of the year in certain schools. School closure was not resorted to, but certificates of low percentage attendance were issued when required.

**BEECHEN GROVE SPECIAL SCHOOL.**—This institution continues its good work as in previous years with undiminished success. In November the annual medical examination of all the children in the school was held—thirty-three in number. This examination included a general medical examination of each child and in addition an investigation of both physical and mental progress since the last annual examination. This annual examination may be considered valuable in many ways. It is important to attend to the health of children in the Special School, as many of these are naturally delicate and below a normal physical standard of health. This impaired physique often accompanies a sub-normal mentality and in some cases an improvement in health is accompanied by some degree of mental improvement. Thus the removal of tonsils and adenoids is often necessary in this type of child and may result in increased physical and mental well-being. It was satisfactory to find that the great majority of children in the school have made great progress since the last annual examination. Whilst much progress in the three R's is



unusual in children of this type, great improvements in manual work usually takes place. By means of this kind of training many of the children in the Special School acquire knowledge which helps to make up for the lack of proficiency in the ordinary school subjects, and which is useful in after life. Frequently it assists them in obtaining employment after leaving school. It is also very satisfactory to find so many children in this school acquiring a considerable proficiency in music and drawing. There is not the slightest doubt that by its good results the school more than justifies its existence. There is some difficulty in many cases in persuading the parents to send their children to the school, but in other cases parents have expressed their great appreciation of the school and all it has done for the children. It is hoped that heads of school departments will bring forward for examination any children whom they consider suitable for the Special School as there are some vacancies at the present time.

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X. DENTAL TREATMENT.

In addition to the School dental work for which the Herts County Council is responsible, there is also a Dental Clinic in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme. The following figures, however, for which I am indebted to Mr. C. H. Powell, refer to the work in connection with School children. Statistics relating to the Dental Treatment of Mothers and Infants will be found in the section of the Report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

			Totals for period April, 1921 to Dec. 1933	
Number of children examined at School	...	1,563	...	20,156
,,           ,,       with sound dentures	...	714	...	8,392
Number of cases refused treatment	... ..	164	...	3,230
,,           ,,       failed appointment	... ..			
Attendances of Dentists :—				
Mr. A. C. Wilson (whole day)	... ..	44	}	1,855
Mr. L. Dinnis (half day)	... ..	41		
Mr. S. F. Fisk (half day)	... ..	41		
Attendances of children	... ..	2,614	...	28,185
Average Attendance—Wednesdays (2 sessions)		33·6	}	14·8
,,           ,,       Fridays (morning)	... ..	12·5		
,,           ,,       Fridays (afternoon)	... ..	14·6		
Number of children treated with Nitrous Oxide				
Gas	... ..	1,008	...	7,576
Attendances of Dr. Reynolds (Anæsthetist)	...	40	...	309
Average number treated per attendance	...	25·2	...	24·5
FILLINGS	{ 1st Permanent Molar	272	}	7,984
	{ Other Permanent Teeth	176		
	{ Temporary Teeth	58		
EXTRACTIONS	{ Permanent Teeth	764	...	4,685
	{ Temporary Teeth	3,641	...	34,725
OTHER OPERATIONS :—				
Scaling, Dressing, etc.	... ..	106	...	1,013

DETAILS—PERMANENT TEETH.

FILLINGS.				EXTRACTIONS.			
No. 1	...	...	78	No. 1	...	...	12
2	...	...	47	2	...	...	12
3	...	...	1	3	...	...	5
4	...	...	14	4	...	...	51
5	...	...	15	5	...	...	44
6	...	...	272	6	...	...	616
7	...	...	21	7	...	...	22
8	...	...	—	8	...	...	2
Total				Total			
448				764			

WATFORD DENTAL TREATMENT CENTRE.  
1933.

INSPECTION STATISTICS.

Date.	School.	Dept.	AGES.										Complete.	Requiring Treat- ment.	Totals.
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
21.2.33	Garston.....	M. & I.	4	38	52	56	19	18	29	18	23	5	113	149	262
23.3.33	Callow Land.....	G. & I.	7	73	64	64	31	38	32	27	33	7	148	228	376
11.5.33	Callow Land.....	B.	-	-	-	56	29	35	30	32	44	14	110	126	236
18.7.33	Chater.....	J.G. & I.	2	71	71	81	36	34	36	9	-	-	175	165	340
19.9.33	Chater.....	J.B.	-	-	1	42	41	23	10	-	-	-	58	59	117
30.11.33	Oxhey .....		13	61	52	43	40	23	-	-	-	-	110	122	232
			26	243	240	342	196	171	137	86	96	26	714	849	1,563

NUMBER OF CHILDREN TREATED FROM SCHOOLS OUTSIDE THE  
BOROUGH OF WATFORD.

Bushey ...	...	102	Brought forward	...	192
Croxley Green ...	...	34	Bricket Wood ...	...	5
Rickmansworth ...	...	17	Chorleywood ...	...	34
Mill End ...	...	11	Leavesden ...	...	16
Sarratt ...	...	28	Abbots Langley	...	3
Carried forward ...	...	192	Total ...	...	250



## XI. WATFORD JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

During the years 1931 and 1932 there was an incidence of infectious disease in the district which was fairly average and this incidence was maintained throughout the earlier half of 1933. Towards the end of 1933, however, there was a considerable increase in the number of scarlet fever cases which taxed the accommodation severely, so severely that it was not possible to admit all the cases of this disease which needed admission.

For a time hospital accommodation for these cases proved inadequate, thus demonstrating the need for a larger hospital. It was not to be expected that a hospital of 66 beds could cope with increased prevalence of infectious disease, although it might suffice in times when there were not very many cases to be admitted.

The hospital board had already anticipated that the time for enlargement would come sooner or later, by the purchase of an extra two acres of land for extensions, and also by the enlargement of the administration block to accommodate an increased staff. In addition great improvements have been made by the installation of central heating and better equipment of the laundry. This expenditure on central heating has been well justified by the increased comfort of the patients due to the more uniform temperature of the wards. It now remains to provide more accommodation for patients to meet present needs. The Board has engaged the services of Mr. W. H. Hobday, of Westminster, to draw up a scheme for extension, and at the time of writing this Report plans have been submitted to the Ministry. The latest plan submitted, made provision for 34 additional beds. If this scheme is carried out the hospital will then have 100 beds available, thus making very reasonable provision for a population estimated at 105,000 (the usual standard adopted being one bed per 1,000 population).

This provision will not be excessive as it must be remembered that there are a large number of resident institutions in the district (schools, homes and medical institutions) which send patients, and which sometimes make large demands on our accommodation. There is also a growing tendency for these institutions in our neighbourhood to increase in size and number. For example the arrival of Merchant Tailors' School at Sandy Lodge and the recent building of the Masonic Girls' Institution at Rickmansworth may result in more cases for admission. There are now over twenty institutions in our district, and the majority of these have at one time or other sent cases to the isolation hospital. With regard to the new scheme for extension it is hoped to proceed with this without delay. Provision is to be made for a new diphtheria block of 22 beds and a cubicle block of 12 beds, also an operating theatre. The diphtheria block will comprise two wards of 12 and 8 beds with two separation wards of one bed each attached. The ward kitchen is placed so that observation of all these wards is possible from this centre. With regard to the cubicle block

this will be of the most recent type and will be linked up with the operating theatre and the other new block by means of a covered corridor. The operating theatre is chiefly for tracheotomy cases, but as it may be required for other operations it is to be constructed apart from the diphtheria block, but connected with it as described. In order to complete the scheme it would be possible at some future date to build another block of 22 beds on the south-west side of the new site, also connected with the operating theatre by means of a corridor. If this is carried out the new site would be very economically used as it would then provide 56 additional beds, bringing the total number of beds up to 122.

The figures for the year 1933 were as follows:—

In Hospital, 1st January, 1933	...	...	...	18
Cases admitted from Watford Borough	...	...	...	128
„ „ „ Watford Rural District	...	...	...	47
„ „ „ Rickmansworth U.D.C.	...	...	...	17
„ „ „ Bushey U.D.C.	...	...	...	46
„ „ „ Chorleywood U.D.C.	...	...	...	3
„ „ „ Hemel Hempstead Borough	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ Hemel Hempstead Rural District	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ Hendon Rural District	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ St. Albans Rural District	...	...	...	1
TOTAL				<u>263</u>
Patients discharged—cured—during 1933				207
„ died in Hospital during 1933	...	...	...	3
„ still in Hospital, 1st January, 1934	...	...	...	53
				<u>263</u>

The 53 cases in hospital, 1st January, 1934, consisted of 46 scarlet fever, 6 diphtheria, and 1 erysipelas.

The following table gives the number of cases admitted from each district, and the total number of cases of each disease.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES ADMITTED FROM  
THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS IN 1933.

District.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	Enteric	Measles.	Poliomyelitis	Chicken Pox.	Whooping Cough.	Mumps.	TOTALS.
Watford Borough ...	84	23	6	3	1	5	2	2	1	1	128
Watford Rural... ..	40	1	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	47
Bushey Urban ... ..	40	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	46
Rickmansworth Urban	15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Chorleywood Urban ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Hemel Hempstead Boro'	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hemel Hempstead Rural	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hendon Rural ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
St. Albans Rural ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ... ..	182	30	11	5	6	5	2	2	1	1	245

The number of deaths which occurred in the hospital were:—  
cerebro-spinal meningitis, 3; other diseases, 0; total, 3.



## APPENDIX—INCUBATION AND EXCLUSION PERIODS OF THE COMMONER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table is published for the information of head teachers and others interested in the prevention of the spread of infectious disease. It is practically identical with the table published in the official Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from School issued jointly by the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education.

It is necessary to have a uniform method of dealing with this matter in all the schools of the Borough and hence the value of publication of this table.

Disease	Incubation period	Interval between onset of illness and appearance of rash	Period of Exclusion.	
			Patient	Contacts
<b>Scarlet Fever</b>	1-8 days	1-2 days	Three weeks after return from hospital, or in the case of patients treated at home, three weeks after release from isolation.	One week after removal of patient to hospital, or in the case of patients at home one week after release from isolation.
<b>Diphtheria</b>	2-10 days	—	Three weeks after end of attack; or until pronounced free from infection by a medical practitioner.	Two weeks after removal of patient to hospital, or in the case of patients treated at home, ten days after release from isolation.
<b>Measles ...</b>	7-14 days	4 days	Three weeks from date of appearance of rash.	Infants and other children, who have not had the disease, three weeks from date of onset of last case in house.
<b>German Measles</b>	5-21 days	0-2 days	One week from the date of appearance of rash.	Infants and other children, who have not had the disease, three weeks from date of last exposure to patient with rash.
<b>Whooping Cough...</b>	6-18 days	—	Six weeks from commencement of cough.	Infants only, for six weeks from date of onset of last case, or three weeks from date of last exposure to infection.
<b>Mumps ...</b>	12-23 days	—	Until one week after subsidence of swelling.	No exclusion.
<b>Chicken Pox</b>	11-21 days	0-2 days	Three weeks, or until all scabs have disappeared.	Infants and other children, who have not had the disease, three weeks from date of last exposure to infection.
<b>Smallpox</b>	10-14 but usually 12 days	3 days	Six weeks, or until the patient is certified free from infection by a medical practitioner.	Sixteen days unless recently vaccinated, when exclusion is unnecessary.







